

Item 8: Chairman's Update

This is what your Parish Council has been doing since we last met. Thank you to local residents, the WI, parish and borough councillors, and our Parish Clerk for helping to make this happen.

Representation

- Spoke at the Swale Planning Committee on the **Lower Road development**.
- Prepared the Parish Council's **draft Regulation 19 Local Plan response**.
- Attended a **drop-in session with the Police and Borough Councillor**.

Thank you to PC Divers and Julien Speed for attending.

Communications

- Published updates during the **water outage**, working with Borough Councillors Julien and Lloyd to share information. Thank you both.
- Published updates on **Highsted Park and a recent planning decision**.
- Produced and published **Teynham News – 1,500 copies delivered**. Thank you to everyone who helped gather material and deliver copies door-to-door. Five local businesses are also acting as collection points.
- **Facebook**: 127,940 page impressions; 16,000+ unique viewers in the last 28 days.

Campaigns & Community

- **Speed Watch**: 8 volunteers trained; five 60-minute sessions completed.
- **Litter pick**: next session scheduled for 13 September.
- **Joint Transportation Board**: next meeting on 21 September.
- **Drop-in Café**: three sessions held, with around 50 people attending each session.

Facilities & Administration

- **Streetlights**: following up general faults and the Honeyball Walk column; investigating solar lighting as a potential replacement option.
- **Play equipment**: damaged green child's swing removed from the Meadow.
- **Planters**: thank you to those maintaining them; dedicated webpage being developed.
- **Community Hall**: establishing the Friends of Teynham Community Hall group and welcomed CHiP Productions.
- **Administration**: setting up a new online booking calendar for the community hall and starting the process of moving to a new banking provider.

Workload

- The **Regulation 19 Local Plan and latest Highsted Park submission** have created significant additional workloads, with externally determined deadlines requiring substantial work at short notice.

Item 9.1: Request to hire council assets

Situation:

The Parish Council has received requests to use its land and assets, including the Meadow, Community Hall chairs and mugs. There is currently no consistent policy.

Action taken:

The Clerk, Chair and F&GP Committee reviewed a recent request to hold a sports day at the Meadow. Due diligence was completed, including recording organiser and event details, requesting/reviewing a simple risk assessment and obtaining a copy of the organiser's public liability insurance.

Proposal:

Develop a simple policy covering:

- Assets are for the benefit of the whole community.
- **Community / non-profit use** – normally free or nominal charge.
- **Commercial / for-profit use** – hire charge normally applies.
- Separate arrangements for **land/venues** and **Council assets**.
- Users remain responsible for relevant licensing, insurance, health & safety and safeguarding requirements. Users responsible for loss or damage.
- Manage expectations and risks for both parties.

Next Steps

- Seek a **councillor volunteer to lead this small project** and bring a draft policy and proposed charges back to Council for agreement.

Item 9.6: Grant Scheme

Current wording: Teynham Parish Council has allocated a total of £XXXX for this year's small grant scheme. Grants for community purposes may be considered for projects and works that bring cultural, sporting, recreational, health, environmental, heritage, community safety, crime reduction or educational benefits to the local community (within the Parish of Teynham).

Grants which may be made available to applicants such as the village hall management committee, local clubs, voluntary committees, community organisations, the school and the church.

The grant cannot be given to support functions that would have otherwise been funded by statutory education or support political or directly religious activities. Also, grants will not be approved for organisations operating for direct commercial gain.

Item 11: Responding to the 2026 Local Plan

Reg 19 Local Plan – At a Glance

The Local Plan sets out where development will take place across Swale and the policies guiding growth to 2042. At Regulation 19, responses must address the four tests of soundness: positively prepared, justified, effective and consistent with national policy.

Proposed key points:

- **Main concern:** cumulative growth without supporting infrastructure.
- **Services and transport:** roads, healthcare and public transport must keep pace.
- **Protect Teynham:** strengthen countryside gaps and settlement separation.
- **Sustainable growth:** development must be deliverable and supported by infrastructure.

Work Completed

- Reviewed the Plan and identified Teynham's key issues
- Sought residents' views on those priorities.
- Reviewed feedback and supporting evidence.
- Prepared the **draft TPC response** (inc summary of development) for consideration

Proposed Next Steps

Stage	Action	Timing
• Overview	Provide overview at meeting	1 Sept
• PC Review	Review and agree draft response	2-5 Sept
• Public Review	Publish public draft	7-14 Sept
• Finalise	Incorporate relevant feedback	14-15 Sept
• Submit	Submit representations to SBC	16 Sept
• Ratify	Ratify submission and record in minutes	October meeting

What do Councillors need to do?

Review the draft [2026 Local Plan Reg 19 Response](#)

Then consider:

1. Is our overall stance right?
2. Have we covered the major issues for Teynham? Is anything significant missing?
3. Are our concerns supported by sufficient evidence?
4. Are the changes we are asking SBC to make clear and reasonable?